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NEW-YORK, MONDAY, MAY 17, 1875.-TRIPLE SHEET.

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION. RELATIONS OF GERMANY WITH BELGIUM AND FRANCE.

EARL RUSSELL'S MOTION IN THE BRITISH HOUSE OF LORDS FOR THE BELGIAN CORRESPONDENCE-ALARM IN FRANCE IN REGARD TO THE JOURNEY OF THE CZAR TO BERLIN.

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. London, May 4.—If any old man of 80 and up-ward ever changes life-long habits, it will not be Earl Russell. Bad habits are perhaps more inveterate than good ones; at any rate, hardly anybedy would say that the habit of which this aged Peer last night gave us another illustration is a good habit. He is meddling with the Belgian business again; and, as before, lecturing about it from the high horse he is so ready to mount. He moved in the Lords that an address be presented to the Queen for copies of the recent correspondence between Germany and Belgium, "with an account of the steps taken to ascertain the truth of the allegations referred to in the This assumes said correspondence." some steps had been taken, and implies that Earl Russell thinks some should have been taken, and that he himself would already have taken some had he been in office. Most Englishmen will feel a sense of relief that he is not. The correspondence he keeps pestering Lord Derby to produce has been communicated confidentially to the English Government. It relates to matters at issue between two foreign governments, neither of which has asked the advice or interposition of England. The correspondence could not be published at present withent a violation of good faith. The subject of it could not, in its present shape, become a matter for English interference in any way without a violation of good manners, to use no stronger phrase. In the way which Earl Russell indicated in his speech, interfereace by England would expose her again to the humiliations she had to endure when Earl Russell was her Foreign Minister. He, if anybody, ought to have learnt the diplomatic meaning of the word snub. But now he wants the state of the Belgian laws inquired into. Should it prove that Belgium has no statutes against threatening the assassination of men high in office in another country, he would have pressure put upon her to enact such laws. He wants Lord Derby to tell him whether, if the law does not exist. the Belgian Government will propose to the Legislature to pass one for the better preservation of amity between Belgium and friendly foreign nations. Lest it be thought incredible such a suggestion should be made in such terms by a man who has been all his life concerned in public affairs, and especially in foreign affairs, I will say that I am quoting textually from a verbatim report of Lord Russell's speech. And his speech relates to a matter by which lately great alarm was excited, and on account of which many persons thought the peace of Europe endangered. Willfully, almost wantonly, Earl Russell stirs the embers of that dying fire. It is hard to believe he wants to help kindle another conflagration, but

what can his object be? Nothing could be more judicious than Lord Derby's answer to this, as to Lord Russell's previous inquiry. The papers, he says explicitly again, are not his to produce. He had been requested by the Embassadors who communicated them to him to consider them confidential. The last one had reached him only three-quarters of an hour before. They are all shortly to be laid before the Belgian Parliament. But Lord Derby does not hesitate to say, with emphasis, that the correspondence contains nothing on either side of an unfriendly character, and nothing in the nature of menace. The question between the two Governments is a question whether Belgian law is sufficient to satisfy the admitted requirements of international relations. That, says Lord Derbyand one hopes that even Earl Russell may not be insensible to the rebuke-is a question on which no Foreign Minister ought to express an opinion without full and careful examination of the laws of other countries-fuller than he himself has been able to make. Neither side has addressed any appeals to England, and nothing could be gained, concludes Lord Derby, almost sternly, by volunteering at this stage an uncalled-for interference in a case which has been only partly heard.

This, you may suppose, put Lord Russell to some shame, or at least to silence for the future. Nothing of the sort. He instantly announced that he should renew his motion on another occasion, and I suppose nothing on earth will prevent him. He is as irrepressible as Dr. Kenealy. But even Dr. Kenealy has held his tongue in the Commons of late, and has shown signs even in his own paper of a desire to conform to the general prejudice in favor of decorum and moderation.

THURSDAY, May 6.-The Belgian reply Lord Russell was so auxious about was published yesterday by the Belgians themselves. If that impatient ogenarian had waited two days he might have spared himself the trouble of putting his question. I conjecture that he congratulates himself on having been so prompt. The reply is firm and moderate. It satisfies Belgium and contains no cause of offense to Germany. The investigation into the Duchesne business is proceeding by legal methods. As to new laws, Belgium with exemplary modesty-possibly not without a touch of humor-remarks that she will wait to see what those laws are which Germany says she herself intends to enact for the reform of her own code. Perhaps they may be a useful guide.

With that, the correspondence might be thought to come to a natural end for the present. But it would not suit the Ultramontane party that it should come to an end. Theirs is a policy of perpetual disturbance. Nothing suits them so ill as that the nations of Europe should dwell together in harmony. Instruments of mischief are always at hand, and pretexts were never wanting to Jesuit ingenuity. The Belgian Bishop of Namur seized the moment when notes were known to be passing between his own Government and the German to publish a pastoral full of fire and fury-with due proportion, also, of insult and denunciation to the address of the German authorities responsible for the "persecution" of the Bishop's fellow firebrands on Teutonic soil. Against the license of this Episcopal outburst Germany is said to have remonstrated. Behold Europe, therefore, now once more, by the mediation of a modern Apostle of good will to men, on the rack for a day or two to know what may come of the new complication. This morning it is denied that any German note has been received at Brussels, but no one knows whether to believe the original statement or the naked assertion of Reuter's Brussels agent that it is unfounded. It is not denied that the pastoral

Nor is this all. The Emperor of Russia is to visit the Emperor of Germany at Berlin next week. France regards the visit with alarm. Her apprehensions are vague, but none the less keen. Visions of an alliance between Russia and Germany flit before her eyes. There war rumors, of which we have heard little for a week past, start up afresh. The old story that Germany is seeking a pretext for a quarrel with France in the hope of completing her conquest and crushing her, dismembering her, putting her past hope of revenge, is revived. The Times of this morning publishes from a French correspondent a curiously circumstantial account of the panie which has got possession of the French political mind, even by those minds which have means of information and which, in ordinary times, would be capable of calm reflection, and ashamed of nightmares in their waking moments. "The most serious minds," writes this informant, " believe in an impending danger, in latent menace, in that vague and terrible sensation which is expressed in the words, there is someon Thursday night in a dispatch from Penzance, that a thing brewing." Then we have at length the continuous transfer and gone ashore on Brechar Island,

jectural programme of the military party in Germany a programme of which the French imagination has supplied us the details. "It is necessary to enter France, march on Paris, take up a position on the sheltered plateau of Avron, whence one could destroy the capital and sign a new peace, depriving France only of the territory of Belfort, limiting its active army, and fining it 10 milliards in 20 yearly installments, with interest at 5 per cent. and without the option of paying it off sooner. Paris would only be attacked in the event of France refusing to sign such a treaty." To the credit of the man who repeats this nonsense, be it said that he avows his disbelief in it; nay, admits that Germany as a whole is against such a scheme. But he insists that sane Frenchmen believe in it, that France-and hence Europe-cannot be tranquil till such fears are allayed, and that Germany ought to allay them by a public declaration that they are unfounded. Sensible men require no such declaration; madmen would not believe it, if made. Yet Prince Bismarck. according to a Vienna telegram, this morning, is desirous to make an attempt to convince France of his peaceful intentions. He proposes to assure the Emperor Alexander that Germany has only peace in view, while the military measures of France justify same sentiments, and His Majesty will be tirgently requested to inform France of the pacific intentions of Germany.

It is not, of course, without some reference to the meeting of the two Emperors that such a letter as this is written. Russia is the only power, according to its author, which Germany need now propitiate. If the Emperor William can obtain the Emperor Alexander's assent to the immediate invasion of France, the rest of Europe will look on-at any rate will not and cannot raise a hand to stay her. Peace or war, therefore, in the view of French alarmists, hangs on the turn things take at the interview of next week. But as the writer admits that even the Emperor William has declared he is bound by the treaty he has signed, and as the country he rules is against the spoliation scheme, the object of such a publication is not very clear. The Times, in a careful article, declares its belief that all these fears are due to the heated fancy of its French neighbors. It gives them publicity, because it would be worse than folly to hide any grave misgivings which may be disturbing Paris. A little further reflection might have suggested that similar misgivings have been disturbing Paris for three years past, and that the "heated faney" to which they are due is not likely to grow suddenly com. If The Times is going to publish two columns of them as often as a Frenchman chooses to put them on paper it will not have room for much else. I certainly am not for suppressing anything, but I believe follies of the kind this correspondent describes derive their chief importance from their appearance-with no matter what disclaimer-in a journal which influences European opinion so powerfully and so widely as The Times. That the peace of Europe is in any more danger than it has been at any time during the last three years I do not believe. The Times is right in saying that wars and rumors of wars and chrenic suspense have taken, even from intellectual Frenchmen, the faculty of political judgment. There is absolutely no reason whatever to suppose the Emperor of Russia would connive at a wanton attack on France, and just as little to suppose the Emperor of Germany or Prince Bismarck will ask him to be a party to so stupid and wicked a purpose as Frenchmen impute to them. G. W. S.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE BRUSSELS CONGRESS. RUSSIA TO NEGOTIATE SEPARATELY WITH FOREIGN POWERS FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE CODE. LONDON, Saturday, May 15, 1875.

The Pall Mall Gazette says Russia, annoyed at England's persistent refusal to participate in the St. Petersburg Conference and the coldness of the other countries, intends giving force of law to the declaration of the Brussels Conference and negotiating separately with the powers to induce their adherence thereto.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN INDIA. HALF OF THE CITY OF PESHAWUR LAID WASTE.

A dispatch from Peshawur, British India, reports that that place has been visited by a very de-structive conflagration. Half of the city was laid At one time the powder magazine was in peril, but the fire was happily stopped before reaching it

THE LOSS OF THE SCHILLER. CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE SURVIVORS BY PAS-SENGERS ON THE LESSING.

PLYMOUTH, Eng., Saturday, May 15, 1875. The Eagle Line steamship Lessing, Capt. loosberg, a sister vessel to the Schiller, which left Now-York a week after the departure of the latter vessel, arrived here this morning. There was great excitement among the passengers when they were apprised of the disaster that had befallen the Schiller. A contribution was taken up among them for the relief of the survivors.

LETTER FROM THE COUNT DE CHAMBORD. HE STILL HAS IMPES OF A MONARCHICAL RESTORA-

TION. PARIS, May 16, 1875.

The Count de Chambord has written a letter to M. de Beleastel, Member of the Assembly for the Haute-Garonne, in which he declares he still has hopes that monarchy will be reestablished in France.

THE LATE DISTURBANCES IN HAYTI. FURTHER PARTICULARS-NUMEROUS ARRESTS EF-FECTED-VESSEL TO PROTECT FOREIGN SUB-

KINGSTON, Jamaica, May 8 .- Saturday, the 1st of May, was c lebrated as the occasion of the annual Agricultural Festival throughout Hayti. On the evening previous President Domingue was secretly advised of a conspiracy to assassinate him on the following day, with view to establishing Monplaiser Pierre in the Presithe President was in church three separate bodies of troops were sent to arrest the conspirators of troops were sent to arrest the conspirators. Gen. Bryce, residing immediately opposite the British Consulate, was the first to be surrounded. He refused to surrender, and, with his revolver, brought down four Haytian officers before he was 'ired apon and morfour Haytian officers before he was 'ired apon and morfour Haytian officers before he was 'ired apon and morfour Haytian officers before he was 'ired apon and morfour Haytian officers before he was 'ired apon and morfour Haytian officers before he was 'ired apon and morfour Haytian officers, when the troops reached the residence of Monplaiser Pierry who was a candidate for the Presidency when Gen. Nissage's term expired), he too, resisted, and fought within his house until wounded, and, retiring to the attle, shot himself through the licad. When Gen. Canel was met, he was in the vicinity of the American Minister's residence, at the head of a body of soldiers. These, on seeing the Government forces, forsook Gen. Canal and fied, the General creeping into Mr. Bassett's residence under the Stars and Stripes, where he now remains. The scene which followed this incident is indescribable. The President, a man of great passion, directed the arrest of every person suspected of being implicated, and arrests were made throughout the entire Kepublic, creating much excitement. No one felt scenre, and a general pasic prevailed. The city of Port-an-Prince was placed under martial was desegred in secaping in the proceed of the disturbances on the British steamer Stay and the proceed of the disturbances on the British steamer Stay and the proceed of the scenarios and ceded in escaping in the proceed of the disturbances on the British steamer Stay and the seed of the second of the sec Gen. Bryce, residing immediately opposite the British

FOREIGN NOTES LAVERPOOL, May 15 .- Monday and Tuesday, next week, will be holidays in this city, and the various exchanges will be bessed.

BERLIN, May 15 .- The hearing of the case of Count You Arnim, on appeal from the decision in his late trial, has been fixed for the 15th of July. Panis May 15 .- The National Assembly to-

my rejected the principal clauses of the Savings Bank bill, and it was thereupon withdrawn by the committee having it is charge. The Chamber adjourned until Tues-

LONDON, May 15 .- The report received here

one of the Scillys, was untrue. The blowing off of steam and whistling by a steamship which was passing during a fog, and the firing of gunboats which were practicing in the vicinity, gave rise to the report.

RIO JANEIRO, May 15 .- The National Bank which has suspended has asked the forbearance of its creditors, promising to pay them in full, with interest. The suspension of this institution caused much excitment, and many depositors in other banks withdrew their funds. The Bank of Brazil came to the aid of the National Bank, and the Government introduced a bill in the Chamber of Deputies authorizing the issue of 25,000 contes to relieve the crisis, which was caused by the absorption of capital by great undertakings in the provinces. These steps restored confidence.

THE FIRE RECORD.

LARGE FIRE IN RUTLAND, VT. DESTRUCTION OF THE OPERA-HOUSE BLOCK-LOSS OVER \$100,000-LIST OF LOSSES AND INSUR-

RUTLAND, Vt., May 16 .- At an early hour resterday morning a fire broke out in Ripley's brick opera-house block, in this city, and the building was entirely destroyed. The north wall fell on the roof of J. C. Dunn's building, and crushed the southern part of the building to the ground. No person was injured by the falling walls. The opera-house building was built and owned by W. Y. Ripley. It was insured as follows:

Æina, \$5,000.

Home of New-York, \$5,000.

Home of New-York, \$5,000.

Homan-American, \$2,500.

Royal, \$1,500.

Franklin, \$5,500.

German-American, \$2,500.

Royal, \$1,500.

Franklin, \$5,500.

Franklin, \$5,500.

Phenix of NewYork, \$5,000.

National of Hartford, \$2,500.

Burnham & Temple's Agency, \$26,500.

It was constructed at a cost of \$70,000 in the Summer and Fall of the year 1867, was built of Milwauhee brick, and was four stories high. The building was occupied on the lower floor by W. P. Cady, clothing, and M. E. Hayes, harness; the second floor by Burnham & Temple, insurance agents; H. W. Kingsiey, tailoring rooms, and by M. C. Hayes's work-room. The upper stories were fitted up in first class style as an opera house. The following is a list of the insurances;

W. P. Cady was insured for \$5,000 in the Hartford; this only covers a small portion of his steek.

S. C. Hayes was insured for \$2,000 in the Phenix, \$2,000 in the Springfield Fire and Marine, and \$2,000 in the North British, and \$2,000 in the Fire Association of Philadelphia; total insurance, \$8,000. His loss is about \$14,000.

Burnham & Temple were insured for \$300 in the Etna; their loss will be about \$1,000.

irnham & Temple were insured for \$300 in the Ætna: Dunn & Cramton are insured on their stock as follows: Etna of Hartford, \$2,250; Home of New-York, \$2,250; German American, \$2,250; Springfield Fire and Marine, \$1,800; National, \$1,800, and Queen, \$2,250, making a total of \$13,600.

J. C. Dunn is insured for \$3,000 in the Hartford and \$2,000 in the Phorax on the building.

H. W. Kingsley lost in his work-room about \$500; no insurance.

M. Bailey, on the opposite side of the street, had his goods damaged to the extent of about \$400.

The Simons block was scorched, and the glass broken out of a number of show-windows along the street.

WOOLEN MILL AT MERIDEN, CONN.-LOSS,

New-Haven, May 16,-The drying-house of the Meriden Wooien Company, at Meriden, was burned yesterday morning. Loss, \$50,000. The mills will be closed for a few weeks in consequence of the fire.

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS-THREE LIVES LOST. HOUSTON, May 16 .- The residence of Aldernan John Meagher was burned yesterday and three men in it were burned to death, being unable to escape. Loss on the building, \$12,000; insurance, \$3,500.

A fire was discovered early yesterday morning in a brick stable at the rear of No. 510 East Fourteenth-st., owned by Patrick Byrne, causing a damage of

a six-story brick building at No. 181 Chambers-st., occupied by E. A. Phelps, dealer in spices, causing a damage of \$500 to the stock and \$100 to the building. The fire was caused by an overheated steam-pipe, by which the adjoining woodwork was ignited.

adjoining woodwork was ignited.

Charles Voss of No. 40 Lercy-st. was in the collar of that house on Saturday looking for a leak in a gas olde. As he carried an unprotected lighted candle in his hand, an explesion followed, and Voss was burned on the face. The damage to the building was \$25.

A fire occurred yesterday on Blackwell's Island, originating on the second floor of a two-story frame building, occupied as a stable and storehouse for hay, coal, &c. The building and contents were destroyed, gansing a loss of about \$5,000, upon which there is no insurance.

Weil, in Newark, N. J., at Court and South Tenth-sts., half of it almost inaccessible from the other. This avewas burned on Saturday, causing a loss of about \$460. nue, which is 120 feet wide, extends from the western use. It appears that he had an insurance of \$2,100 on

IN NEW-ROCHELLE, N. Y. The residence of Henry Cornell, at New-Rochelle, N. Y., was entirely destroyed by tire on Friday night. Nothing was saved except a small pertion of the furniture. The loss is about \$10,000; insured for \$3,500.

THE WAR ON THE WHISKY RING.

THE TRANSACTIONS OF ALL THE RECOGNIZED DISTIL-LERIES OF THE COUNTRY TO BE TESTED.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, May 16 .- The transactions of every distillery and rectifying house in the country are now to be tested as rapidly as possible, by comparison of records filed in the office of Internal Revenue, with tran-scripts attainable through revenue officers from books of dealers. The serial numbers of all stamps issued for a year will be arranged in order; the dumping papers for the same period are here, as also stubs of stamps issued. The serial numbers of all packages corresponding to these stamps, and the amount of spirits shipped upon them, will be obtained from the books of dealers. These documents will make it possible to open and complete an account with every regularly recognized liquor establishestablishments seized was deemed ample before their seizure was ordered, evidence collected since by officers in charge of them is in most instances sufficient of itself to insure conviction, even if all previously collected here should be neglected.

LARGE SEIZURE OF LIQUORS IN BOSTON.

Boston, May 16 .- For some time past U. S. Revenue Collector Slack and Detective Hayes have been quietly investigating the books of the various liquor firms this city, having learned that a large amount of the The investigation has resulted in the seizure, in transitu to this city, of some \$50,000 worth of liquors, consigned principally to D. T. Mills & Co. and C. A. & W. Bird, and of 500 packages of liquors valued at \$200,000, the property of 30 different firms of this city. They will be held pending an investigation.

AN ILLICIT DISTILLERY DESTROYED IN VIRGINIA. WYTHEVILLE, Va., May 16 .- John Walsh of this district (the Eighth Virginia) has made a raid on it heit distilleries in Floyd County, destroying two distil leries, with their contents, and arresting one of the dis-

AN OFFICER SHOT BY A COUNTERFEITER. WASHINGTON, May 16 .- A letter received here from Wytheville, Va., gives the following informa-tion: Charles A. Kile, United States Deputy Marshal, was shot twice and badly wounded on the 12th inst. by Taylor Tilton, whom he was about to arrest on a warrant for coesterfeiting, near Marion, Wythe County, Va. One of the shots broke Kile's arm, the other passed through his leg. Tilson was also shot and wounded by Kile, but es-

leg. Thison was also shot and wounded by Kile, but escaped, and is now at large. Mr. Kile is represented as a brave and efficient officer.

A letter from Wytherfile, Va., dated the 14fn inst., says: "Taylor Thison, the counterfeiter who shot Deputy Marshaff kile, near Marion day before yesterday, has just been captured and sodged in jail. He will be tried at the next term of the United States District Court, which commences at with made on the 25th inst., and will no doubt be made an example of.

WHISKY SEIZURES IN BROOKLYN.

One hundred and fifty barrels of "crooked whisky, just received from the West, was detained in Brooklyn on Saturday for examination by Collector Pres land, acting under orders from Washington. John Mahoney, whose distillery was seized on April 29, was held in \$2,500 bail on Saturday to await the action of a United States Grand Jury for alleged illicit distillation. WASHINGTON.

THE GOVERNMENT BADLY WORSTED IN ITS OWN COURT.

PROBABLE LOSS OF A MILLION IN THE COURT OF CLAIMS-THE PACIFIC RAILROAD LITIGATION. WASHINGTON, May 16.—The decision of the Court of Claims in the suit of the Union Pacific Railroad against the Government, for half the Government transportation, is likely to be rendered within a few

The suit is probably one of greater magnitude and importance than has ever before been decided in the Court. If decided in favor of the Company, it will put into their treasury about one million dollars, besides securing the steady revenue from subsequent Government transportation, amounting now to something like four hundred thousand dollars a year.

The case was argued and submitted about three weeks ago. The Judges have taken ample time to consider it, and the general belief is that they have arrived at a conclusion adverse to the Government. The Company base their claim upon the language of their charter. The act of 1864 provides that only "one-half of the compensation for services rendered for the Government by said companies shall be required to be applied to the payment of the bonds issued by the Government in aid of the construction of said roads." There are some who stoutly deny that this prevents these sums from being offset by the interest which the Government claims from the roads. But most lawyers here take a different view, in which it has even been said that the law officers of the Government sympathize; and it is generally thought that the decision the Court has reached will be adverse to the Government, and unanimous.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO CONTROVERSIES. WORK SUSPENDED ON THE SHENANDOAH BRANCH-

THE ISSUE OF COUNTY BONDS PREVENTED-CONTEST OVER A WASHINGTON DEPOT.

WASHINGTON, May 15 .- The work of construction of the Shenandoah Vatley Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Ratiroad has been suspended between Staunton, Va., and Salem. Mr. Garrett's shiert in building this branch from Harner's Chesapeake and Ohio Road at the former place and the Virginia and Tennessee Road at the latter, thus drawing away from Richmond to Baltimore a portion of the trade of the Middle Southern States that now goes to the Capital of Virginia over the two roads mentioned and over the Danville and Richmond Road. The Valley Road is already finished and in running order from Harper's Ferry to Staunton, and the most of the grading is done 72 miles beyond that place. It is on this latter portion of the road that the troubles have occurred which have re sulted in a suspension of work.

The counties through which the south-western portion

of the new road was to extend had voted to contribute certain sums in county bonds to aid in its construction but to this strong opposition has arisen, which has been encouraged by some of Mr. Garrett's enemies, and probably also by those interested in the trade of Richmond and the business of the roads whose lines were to be tapped The result has been that injunctions have been obtained to prevent the issue of the county bonds, and these injunctions have finally been sustained by the Courts. Aid which was expected in Baltimore seems also to have failed. Work was stopped about two mouths ago, but on Satur-

tools, &c., and make a final closing up.

The Baltimere and Ohio Railroad is having continual controversies with the cities and counties through which A fire occurred yesterday forenoon on the first floor of | it extends. Here in Washington it purchased several years ago a square of ground adjoining its present depot, with the intention of building a new depot upon it, and during the administration of the Shepherd Ring a permit was granted by the Board of Public Works for the erection of the new building. A few days ago the Commissioners of the District learned that the Company was soon to site proposed. The ground of this action is two-fold. In the first place, the site selected is too near the Capitol, and the people of this city have had too much experience of the difficulty of getting rid of a nulsance of this kind to allow a multiplication of them. In the second place, if the depot is placed on the proposed site, it makes it no essary for the road to cross Massachusetts-ave., with its The one-story frame dwelling of Joseph center the finest avenue in Washington, and making each circles in the western part of Washington, in the adornenormous sums, and bisecting Lincoln Park and several other beautiful public squares east of the Capitol. The Commissioners have informed the Company that permission will be granted to build a depot anywhere north of

This determination of the District Commissioners will, no doubt, meet with popular approval. It would proba-bly be difficult to find a member of Congress who, three Pailroad to cross the Mall cast of the Smithsonian Institution who is not now convinced of the mistake he made At that time the Baltimore and Obio Railroad was the only avenue of communication between Washington and the North and West, and the illiberal policy it pursued made its management very unpopular in this city. Congress was, therefore, ready to do almost anything to aid a rival road and made the fatal mistake of allowing the what will eventually be the finest park in the city. Of tracks will have to be removed from Sixth-st., and the how this removal can be accomplished. The most feastto purchase the new depot which has been erected on the corner of Sixth and B-sts. by the Baltimore and Ohio Company, and which is really a fine building, and use it for the offices of the District Government, no permanent provision having been made for them since the half of e City Hall which belonged to the District was sold to the General Government. Then the railroad company

The Baltimere and Ohio Company is also engaged in several controversics with the local authorities of the places through which it passes about the payment of taxes. Here in Washington it is indebted to the District probably be begun by the Commissioners to recover the amount due. In several cases the county authorities in Virginia have attempted to collect the taxes due from the Sheriff stopped a train, but Mr. Garrett obtained an injunction ordering him not to interfere with the opera-

RING METHODS.

TEN PER CENT TAX LIEN CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON PROPERTY ON WHICH TAXES HAD NOT BEEN PAID-A LARGE NUMBER PUT UPON THE MAR-KET ERRONEOUSLY.

WASHINGTON, May 16 .- One way in which the District of Columbia Ring was in the habit of raising money was by issuing "tax lien certificates." The laws of the District, like those elsewhere, provided the ma-chinery for the collection of delinquent taxes. If the owner of the property taxed did not pay after a reasonable time, the authorities were not only authorized, but this method was altogether too slow to suit the enterprising tastes of the Ring, and so a more satisfactory method was invented. When the taxes became due, it they were not paid, a "tax lien certificate" was issued. bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent from the date of its issue. The amount of these certificates prepared was \$339,000, of which \$239,000 were actually paid out

to meet the liabilities of the District Government.

The Commissioners of the District are now redeeming these certificates as fast as the delinquent taxes can be collected, but it has been discovered that a large quantity of them were erroneously issued-that is, " tax lien certificates" were issued against property on which the taxes had been paid or on which no taxes were due How many of these erroneous certificates were put in circulation it is now impossible to tell, but of those presented for redemption about \$10,000 have been of this character. As the District Government has had the eventually to be paid, either out of the funds of the Dis

trict or by an appropriation by Congress.

It is the present intention of the Commissioners to use the money collected from delinquent taxes, and not needed to redeem these "tax lien certificates," in buying up and camceling some of the old debt of the District.

GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEYS.

THE WHEKLER EXPEDITION TO TAKE THE FIELD AGAIN DURING THE PRESENT MONTH-COMPO-SITION OF THE CALIFORNIA AND COLORADO

WASHINGTON, May 16 .- The parties for geographical explorations and surveys west of the 100th meridian " under the Engineer Bureau of the War Department, and in immediate charge of Lieut. George M. Wheeler, U. S. Engineers, will again take the fleid during the menth, the main points of departure being

Pueblo, Colorado, and Los Angeles, Cal. The California Division will be under the immediate command of Lieut. Wheeler, and will be composed of three main field parties, directed respectively by Lieuts. Wheeler and Bergland, U. S. Engineers; C. W. Whipple of the Third Artillery, and Rogers Birnie of the 13th U. S. Infantry. The field of operations will embrace porions of Southern and Eastern California, including por-ions of the Coast range and the Southern Sierra Nevada, extending eastward as far as Death Valley, con-The Colorado Division will be under the general control of Lieut. W. L. Marshall, Corps of Engineers, who has had three years' previous experience, and will be subdi-vided into three working field parties, commanded respectively by Lieuts. W. L. Marshall, C. C. Morrison, 6th U. S. Cavalry, and W. L. Carpenter, 9th U. S. Infantry. The field of operations will be in Central New Mexico and Southern and South-Western Colorado, connecting with and continuing the work of previous years. All the parties of the expedition will be subdivided into still smaller pardetermining as to the practicability of diverting the water of the Colorado of the West for irrigation and other rposes. A small party will also act in connection with a similar one sent out under the auspices of the Smithtions and collections in the Santa Catalina Islands, where

it is believed ruins and relics of great interest exist. Although the appropriation made for the work is comparatively small, because of simplicity of organization and improvement in methods and instruments, it is

NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.

PERSONS REGARDED AS REGULAR SUBSCRIBERS WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE POSTAL LAWS, WITHOUT REGARD TO THE LENGTH OF TIME OF THEIR SUBSCRIPTION.

WASHINGTON, May 16 .- The Postmaster-Genral to-day issued the following order:

eral to-day issued the following order:

Post-Office Department;
Washington, D. C., May 15, 1875.
Ordered: That Section 103 of the Regulations of the Post-Office Department be amended by striking out the words "and the subscription must be for not less than three months," in the seventh and eighth lines; and the section so amended shall be as follows:
Sec. 103. A regular subscriber is a person who has actually paid or undertaken to be and be some other person; but in the latter case such payment has been made or undertaken to be made by some other person; but in the latter case such payment must have been made or undertaken with the previous consent or at the previous request of the person to whom such newspaper, magazine, or periodical fa sent. A person to whom any such publication is sent without his consent or request is not a "regular subscriber" within the meaning of the law, and double transient rates of postage must be charged and collected on such publications before delivery. Marshall Jewell, Note to Postmasters,—Postmasters will observe that, by

Postmaster-General.

Note to Postmasters.—Postmasters will observe that, by his amendment of the 103d section of the Regulation arisons who are subscribers to a newspaper or periodical sedefined in the regulation, are to be regarded as "regar subscribers" within the intendment of the Posta eys, without regard to the length of time of their subscriber.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL. PUBLICATION OF WAR RECORDS.

WASHINGTON, May 16, 1875. The extracts which have appeared from Gen. record, and its unkind allusions to so many distinguished under the control of the War Department, our are in possession of the Treasury. The captured Confederate archives are in course of rapid preparation for publica-tion by the War Department, in pursuance of the order of Congress, and on this account are not in a condition to allow handling by outside parties.

THE NEW COMMISSIONER AND THE OLD. Commissioner Pratt took charge of the Internal Revenue office yesterday. At an informal meeting of the officers and clerks and other employes of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, held in the office of the Communissioner, to give an expression to their feelings in reference to the severance of their official rela-tions with their late chief, Mr. J. W. Donglass, Commistions with their late chief, Mr. J. W. Donglass, Commissioner Pratt was called to the chair and complimentary resolutions were read and unanimously adopted, after which Commissioner Pratt, in a few remarks, declared his sympathy with the feeling manifested in the resolutions, which he said were so well expressed and so well descreed. He referred to the fact that his own appointment had been unexpected and unsolicited, and expressed a wish that he might at the close of his own term of service enjoy the same appreciation and good feeling which had been manifested for the outgoing Commissioner by those who had been so long associated with him.

ARRIVAL OF A PART OF THE BLACK HILLS DELEGATION.

Major H. W. Bingham, Indian Agent at Cheyenne, arrived here last night, accompanied by nine Sioux Indians and W. M. Fleider as interpreter. The following comprise the delegation: Lone Horn, Head Chief of the Minneconjous; Tall Man Dan, Head Chief of the Two-Kettle Band; Swan, Bull Eagte, Spotted Elk, The Duck, Red Sairt, Rattling Rib, and Charger. They have been 15 days on the route to this city. Red Cloud and Spotted Tail with their delegations are expected tomorrow night. The delegations come here for the purpose of negotiating with the Government for the sale of the Black Hills. The delegations were visited by Commissioner Smith to-day at the Tremont Heise, after which they were taken around the city in carriages for an airing. The Commissioner has received information from the Red Cloud delegation stating that they will not reach here until Monday morning at 7 o'clock. Two-Kettle Band; Swan, Bull Eagle, Spotted Elk, The

FIVE MILLION COUPON BONDS CALLED IN.

The Secretary of the Treasury has just made a call for \$5,000,000 coupon bends, upon which interest cease on and after August 15 next. The nineteenth call for the redemption of \$5,000,000 coupon 5-20 bonds of 1862 embraces bonds within the following numbers Pirty dollars: Nos. 18,701 to 20,300, both inclusive; \$100, Nos. 48,101 to 51,600, both inclusive; \$500, Nos. 25,500 to 27,500, both inclusive; \$1,000, Nos. 75,501 to \$6,550, both inclusive; \$5,000,000. United States securities forwarded for redemption should be addressed to the Loan Livision of the Secretary's office.

INSECURITY OF THE PENSION OFFICE.

Senator Ingalls, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Invalid Pensions being at the Interior Depart ment yesternay, Commissioner Atkinson called his at-tention to the insecurity from fire of the Pension Records in the Scaton Building, where many of the clerks of the bureau are employed. He also requested the Senator to examine into the workings of the bureau, with a view of suggesting to Congress such additional legislation as wound increase the efficiency of that branch of the public service. ment yesterday, Commissioner Atkinson called his at-

The Select Committee of the Senate appointed to ex amine into the condition of the Executive Departmen in order to report at the next session of Congress what reforms are necessary, have completed their examination of all of them excepting the Department of State. The examination of this department would have been finished last week but for the absence from Washington of the Secretary. The Committee will meet some time during the Summer to prepare their report. ALBANY.

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

THE SUPPLY BILL.

SECOND CONFERENCE COMMITTEE NECESSARY-THE NEW CAPITOL AND THE ELMIRA REPORMA-TORY CLAUSES THE PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS OF DIF-PERENCE RETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES-SENATOR WOOD AND LAST YEAR'S SUPPLY BILL. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, May 16 .- For the first time in a number

f years a second Conference Committee is neces

sary on the Supply bill. This year, as last, the

longest and hardest contest is over the manage of the New Capitol. The Senate Committee insist on the Senate amendment putting the management of the work in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Controller, and the Attor-ney-General, and the Assembly Com-mittee insists with equal tenacity on the bill as passed by the Assembly, providing for new Commissioners to be appointed by the Governor. The former amendment leaves the work practically -so the Democrats claim-in the hands of the Controller. Lieut.-Gov. Dorsheimer is here only during the session, and Attorney-General Pratt is an infrequent visitor at the Capitol, with little time to spare from the duties of his office. The Senate, too, left Superintendent Eaton in charge, and this, added to Controller Hopkins's management at the head of the enterprise, is more than the Democrats are willing to yield; and anything more than a mixed commission, with two Democrats and one Republican on it, the Republican Senate are equally unwilling to grant. Another difference as serious has sprung up about the Elmira Reformatory-Mr. McGuire's particular care. The appropriation in this case has been amicably reduced from \$275,000 to \$100,000, but no common ground has been discovered in regard to the management of the work. Mr. McGnire and his friends have been actively at work all the Winter to remove the Superintendent. The Assembly legislated him out of office; the Senate amendment reinstated him. The half of the Conference Committee which Speaker McGuire appointed was carefully packed to secure his personal ends at the Elmira Reformatory and party ends at the new Capitol. The Senate Conference Committee proved as uncompromising as that of the House, and a dead-lock has resulted. All to-day and yesterday has been spent in informal consultation, but without success. A new Committee is inevitable. One of the influences actively employed to force the Chairman of the Senate Committee (Senator Wood) to yield is understood to be a suppressed report of the Assembly Judiciary Committee in regard to his action on last year's Supply bill.

The Senate has investigated the matter and acquitted him of all blame. An investigation was or-dered by the Assembly by its Judiciary Committee, and its report reaches very different conclusions The evidence before both Senate and Assembly Committees narrowed the issue down to a direct question of veracity between Senator Wood and Gen. Batcheller, the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee last year. The report of the Judiciary Committee analyzes the circumstantial evidence on both sides, and concludes that Gen. Batcheller has told the truth. The report in this form has been signed by most, if not all, the Democratic members of the Committee. Mr. Vedder (Republican) amends the report so as to exonerate both Messrs. Wood and Batcheller, and signs that as a minority report. If no compromise is reached the report will be fected, it may be very materially altered before Mr. Waehner, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, presents it to the Assembly. Upon the greater part of the Supply bill the Comontstanding points of difference are, besides the two mentioned, the Asylum for the Blind at Batavia. (the Assembly appropriating \$6,000 and the Senate \$12,500), and the Lusane Asylum building at Poughkeepsie (the Assembly appropriating \$20,000 and the Senate \$50,000), the Insure Asylum at Sherman's book have created an immense amount of talk | Middletown (the Assembly appropriating \$70,000 in army circles, as well as among ex-volunteers. If what and the Senate \$123,860). The examination of witwill be received with universal attention from these classes, it will exite unmerciful criticism. Many of its also in abeyance. Altogether the Senate Conference Committee agree to recede from the amendments in-creasing the original appropriations by the Assem-bly to the amount of \$287,750, leaving the amount of the supply, as it stands at present, at \$2,275,662

RAPID TRANSIT.

THE GOVERNOR IN FAVOR OF MR. BUSTED'S BILL-THE POWER TO APPOINT THE COMMISSIONERS

NOT DESIRED BY HIM. ALEANY, N. Y., May 16 .- It is understood here that Gov. Tilden will use his influence to secure the passage of the Rapid Transit bill introduced in the Asernor favors this bill because he considers it a complete and practical measure, under which practical re-sults can be speedily secured, especially in the it was deemed proper by Mr. Sherman of Oncida, and others, when it was prepared, that the Commissioners should be appointed by the Governor; but the Governor

mants, and it we done the state of the cost any consultation with him. What he does device is that a complete, practicable, and constitutional full scane as the one introduced by Mr. Hartot be, should become a law before the Legislature adjourns, so that capitalists will be safe and the rights of the people perfectly secured. SATURDAY SESSION OF THE SENATE. OMMISSIONERS TO THE CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION-EXAMINATION OF FIRE EXTINGUISHEDS-THE

REAL ESTATE RECORD BILL ORDERED TO A THIRD

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TELEUNE.

has no desire for their appointment being placed in his hands, and it was done without his known dge, and with-

ALBANY, May 15 .- The Scrate possed the day at work upon bills in the Committee or the Whole, endeavoring to diminish as far as possible the arrears of bill of greatest interest ordered to a third reading was that providing for the appointment by the Governor of seven Commissioners to represent the Empire State at the Philadelphia Exposition in 1876. The fell was ap The Commissioners are to serve without pay, but \$25,000 which Senator Jacobs had in charge, provided for the appointment of a Commissioner to make a test of fire-extinguishers, the successful extinguisher to be thereis stored. Senator Coe assailed the bill as an advertising scheme, and charged that \$6,000 was "put up" last year to obtain a committee's approval of a sin flar tell. Sen ator Jacobs seemed to think it accessary to remind the Senators that such charges were grossly improper, 2 proportions of a discovery. The bill was finally "progressed," and at this stage of the session that means that it will never make progress beyond the clerk's desk. The bill embodying what is popularly known as The Real Estate Record job was ordered to a third reading. This grants to that journal the rights of countries to the journal the rights. grants to that journal the right of copying daily all